

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



**ILLINOIS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE**

P.O. Box 19283, Springfield, IL 62794-9283

Phone: (217)492-4295

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

<http://www.agstats.state.il.us>

RELEASED: April 7, 2003 3 P.M., CT

VOL. 24, NO. 6

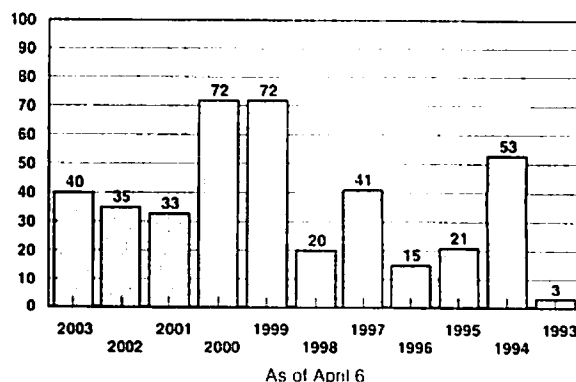
Agricultural Summary

Spring fieldwork picked up during the early part of last week. Farmers were disking, fertilizing and planting fields. Later in the week however, temperatures turned cooler and along with rain kept many farmers out of the fields. There was an average of 3.7 days suitable for fieldwork last week with the East a little higher at 4.5 and the Southeast lower at 2.0. Average temperature departure for the week was 3.6 degrees above normal, with near normal precipitation. Oat seeding advanced to 40 percent compared to 35 percent last year and the average of 46 percent. Corn planted reached one percent. Concerns were reported that the cooler temperatures this weekend could retard growth of winter wheat, alfalfa and pastures. Winter wheat is "greening up" and reported to be two percent poor, 22 percent fair, 54 percent good and 22 percent excellent. Alfalfa has "broken dormancy" and was two percent poor, 29 percent fair, 63 percent good and six percent excellent. Pasture was one percent very poor, seven percent poor, 38 percent fair, 49 percent good and five percent excellent. Average topsoil moisture across the state was two percent very short, 28 percent short, 63 percent adequate and seven percent surplus. Other activities during the week included hauling grain, spreading fertilizers and chemicals, mowing and preparing equipment for field work.

Crop Progress

Crop Stage	2003	2002	5-Year Average
April 6			
CORN:			
Planted	1	0	1
OATS:			
Planted	40	35	46

Oats - Percent Seeded Illinois



Crop Conditions

Crop	: Very Poor	: Poor	: Fair	: Good	: Excellent
April 6					
Winter Wheat	-	2	22	54	22
Alfalfa	-	2	29	63	6
Pasture	1	7	38	49	5

Soil Moisture and Days Suitable for Fieldwork Table

District	: Days Suitable for Fieldwork	: Very Short	: Short	: Adequate	: Surplus
March 31 - April 6		April 6			
Northwest	3.7	6	38	56	-
Northeast	3.5	1	40	59	-
West	3.5	3	31	52	14
Central	3.4	1	22	74	3
East	4.5	1	32	58	9
W Southwest	3.5	1	20	75	4
E Southeast	3.7	3	27	70	-
Southwest	3.8	-	11	81	8
Southeast	2.0	-	-	50	50
State	3.7	2	28	63	7

Temperature and Precipitation

District	Temperature			Precipitation		
	: Average	: Normal	: Departure	: Total	: Normal	: Departure
March 31 - April 6						
Northwest	44.0	43.9	0.1	0.56	0.57	-0.01
Northeast	43.3	43.7	-0.4	1.14	0.67	0.47
West	51.6	46.9	4.7	0.72	0.59	0.13
Central	51.3	46.3	5.0	0.93	0.64	0.29
East	51.8	46.0	5.8	0.98	0.71	0.27
W Southwest	54.0	48.6	5.4	0.52	0.62	-0.10
E Southeast	53.2	49.0	4.2	0.48	0.79	-0.32
Southwest	55.6	51.0	4.7	0.37	0.75	-0.38
Southeast	54.8	51.2	3.6	0.36	0.85	-0.49
State	50.8	47.2	3.6	0.68	0.68	-0.01

Weather data provided by Illinois State Water Survey, Department of Natural Resources, 2204 Griffith Drive, Champaign, Il. 61820, (217)244-8226.

Weather Information Table

Location	Maximum	Temperature Minimum	Departure	Precipitation
March 31 - April 6				
Northwest:				
Freeport	81	22	-2	0.39
Kewanee	81	24	2	0.77
Moline	84	24	5	0.24
Mount Carroll	83	20	2	0.47
Paw Paw	81	24	4	1.14
Rochelle	82	23	1	0.64
Rockford	81	23	1	0.71
Northeast:				
Aurora	82	24	2	1.44
Chicago	81	24	-2	1.80
Lake Villa	73	22	-4	0.60
McHenry	76	21	-3	1.16
Morris	83	22	3	1.10
Ottawa	83	26	4	0.53
Park Forest	81	27	4	1.81
West:				
Galesburg	82	24	4	0.51
Prairie City	82	26	8	1.12
Quincy	79	28	8	0.53
Central:				
Bloomington	83	25	5	1.43
Decatur	82	29	7	0.69
Havana	81	22	4	1.50
Lincoln	83	24	6	0.80
Peoria	81	27	7	1.02
East:				
Champaign	82	26	7	0.37
Pontiac	82	26	6	1.26
West Southwest:				
Carlinville	82	28	5	0.43
Morrisonville	81	27	3	0.17
Springfield	82	30	7	0.41
East Southeast:				
Effingham	79	25	6	0.24
Flora	78	27	7	1.08
Hutsonville	78	30	5	0.23
Iuka	77	27	2	0.69
Newton	74	29	4	0.69
Paris	79	27	4	0.53
Windsor	80	30	6	0.49
Southwest:				
Carbondale	75	26	5	0.04
Lebanon	81	28	4	0.24
Steeleville	84	31	4	0.11
Southeast:				
Benton	77	28	3	0.21
Grayville	76	28	2	0.03
Mt Vernon	76	25	4	0.10

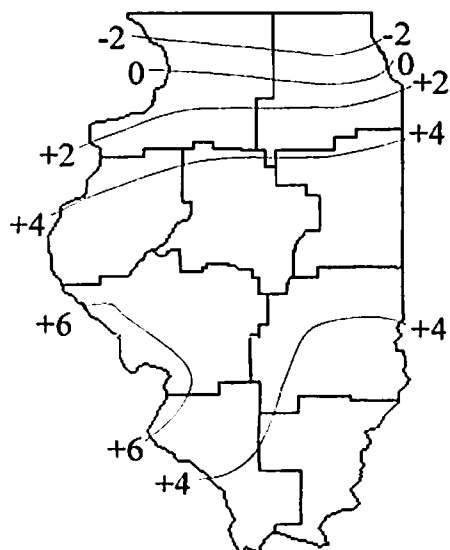
Data is for the weekly period that ends on Sunday at 8:00 a.m.
Departure is from the overall average for the week during the 1961-90 period.

NEWSPAPER TIME VALUE

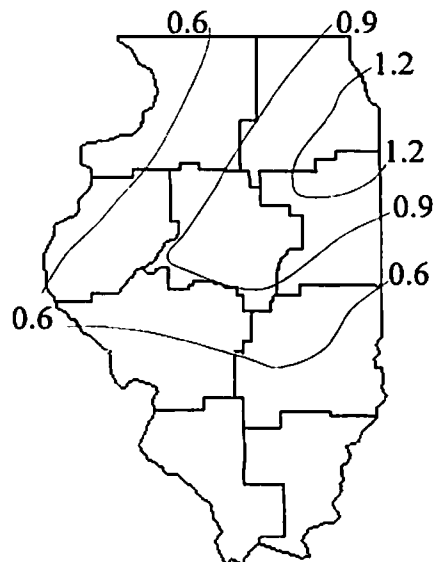
Illinois Weather & Crops
April 7, 2003

Illinois Weather & Crops (ISSN 0273-8635) is published weekly April-October, semimonthly in January, monthly in December, February and March and three issues in November, by the Illinois Dept. of Agriculture, Illinois Agricultural Statistics Service, Room 54, Department of Agriculture Bldg., 801 Sangamon Ave., Springfield, IL 62702. For information on subscribing, send request to the above address. Periodical postage paid at Springfield, Illinois. Postmaster: Send Address Change to Illinois Weather & Crops, P.O. Box 19283, Springfield, IL 62794-9283.

Maps provided by the Illinois State Water Survey
Visit their home page at <http://mcc.sws.uiuc.edu>
(217)244-8226



Temperature (°F) Departure
March 31 - April 6



Precipitation (in.) Total
March 31 - April 6

Crop PROGRESS INFORMATION in this report is provided voluntarily by
local area officials of Farm Service Agency, Extension Service,
National Resources Conservation Service, Farm Business
Farm Management field staff, and agribusiness managers.

"Printed by authority of the State of Illinois" 4/7/03, 1,575, 1444

